

Table B-18. Future plans for highest degree expected among science and engineering master's degree recipients in 1997 and 1998, by major field of degree: April 1999

Major field of 1997-98 S&E master's degree	Total recipients	Future plans by highest degree expected		
		Master's degree	Doctorate	Professional
All science and engineering fields.....	157,000	61,600	88,000	6,700
Total science.....	110,400	38,700	64,900	6,100
Computer and information sciences.....	20,000	10,100	9,800	S
Life and related sciences, total.....	16,600	6,300	7,200	3,100
Agricultural and food sciences.....	2,300	1,300	S	S
Biological sciences.....	11,600	3,800	5,000	2,800
Environmental life sciences including forestry science.....	2,600	1,200	1,200	S
Mathematical and related sciences.....	7,200	2,600	4,500	S
Physical and related sciences, total.....	9,100	2,700	5,800	S
Chemistry, except biochemistry.....	3,700	900	2,400	S
Earth sciences, geology, and oceanography.....	3,000	1,200	1,700	S
Physics and astronomy.....	2,300	S	1,700	S
Other physical sciences.....	S	S	S	S
Psychology.....	30,000	8,400	20,700	S
Social and related sciences, total.....	27,500	8,600	16,900	2,000
Economics.....	4,300	1,500	2,700	S
Political science and related sciences.....	9,400	3,600	4,600	1,200
Sociology and anthropology.....	4,300	S	3,500	S
Other social sciences.....	9,500	2,900	6,100	S
Total engineering.....	46,700	22,800	23,100	S
Aerospace and related engineering.....	1,500	500	1,000	S
Chemical engineering.....	2,300	1,300	1,000	S
Civil and architectural engineering.....	6,600	4,100	2,400	S
Electrical, electronic, computer and communications engineering.....	16,300	7,500	8,500	S
Industrial engineering.....	3,600	1,700	1,800	S
Mechanical engineering.....	6,800	3,200	3,500	S
Other engineering.....	9,600	4,600	4,800	S

KEY: S = Data with weighted values less than 100 or unweighted sample sizes less than 20 are suppressed for reasons of data reliability.

NOTES: Details may not add to totals because of rounding and because a small number of graduates who reported their highest expected degree as "other" are excluded.

These estimates of 1997 and 1998 college graduates are obtained from a sample survey of individuals receiving bachelor's or master's degrees in science or engineering fields and may differ from degree counts presented in other SRS publications.

SOURCE: National Science Foundation/Division of Science Resources Statistics, National Survey of Recent College Graduates, 1999